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DIST 20 NOVEMBER 1966

COUNTRY: HAITI

DDI : NOVEMBER 1966

SUBJECT: DISSENSION AMONG MASFERRER GROUP RE INVASION OF HAITI

ADD :

SOURCE :

Copy of this report
by routing slip for
[] info [] action
date: 11/22/66
by: J.H.S. (m)

COMMENT:

MEMBERS OF THE MASFERRER FORCE FOR THE INVASION OF HAITI WERE TO BE PICKED UP FOR EMBARCATION FROM VARIOUS POINTS IN MIAMI ON THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER.

THE PRINCIPAL GROUP OF CUBAN EXILE ACTIVISTS WHO WERE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE THE MAIN STRIKING FORCE FOR THE INVASION OF HAITI REFUSED TO LEAVE FLORIDA ON NOVEMBER AS HAD BEEN PLANNED. INITIALLY, THE ASSEMBLY FOR EMBARCATION WAS PROJECTED FOR THE MORNING OF 19 NOVEMBER. THIS WAS LATER POSTPONED TO THE LATE AFTERNOON OF THE SAME DAY. THE DEPARTURE WAS FURTHER POSTPONED WHEN THE CUBAN ACTIVIST GROUP AND THE HAITIAN EXILE GROUP

COULD NOT REACH AN AGREEMENT

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REGARDING THE TERMS OF THEIR COOPERATION.

3. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 19 NOVEMBER [REDACTED] MILITARY CHIEF OF THE MASFERRER FORCE PRESENTED [REDACTED] WITH A DRAFT AGREEMENT WHICH HE STATED MUST BE SIGNED BY [REDACTED] AND HIS PRINCIPAL BACKERS BEFORE THE CUBAN ACTIVISTS WOULD AGREE TO EMBARK ON THE INVASION OF HAITI. THE DRAFT AGREEMENT CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING FOUR MAIN POINTS:

A. ROLANDO MASFERRER WILL NO LONGER PLAY ANY ROLE IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INVASION FORCE.

B. [REDACTED] POSITION AS SOLE MILITARY CHIEF OF THE INVASION FORCE IS CONFIRMED. UPON THE OVERTHROW OF DUVALIER, [REDACTED] WILL BE THE SOLE MILITARY CHIEF OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF HAITI UNTIL THE CUBAN EXILES RETURN TO A FREE CUBA.

C. THE CUBAN EXILES IN HAITI WILL ESTABLISH BASES AND MAKE SUCH OTHER PREPARATIONS FOR THE INVASION OF CUBA FROM HAITI AS THEY DEEM NECESSARY.

D. THE CUBAN ACTIVIST FORCES IN HAITI WILL HAVE A VOICE IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF HAITI UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THEY RETURN TO A FREE CUBA.

4. [REDACTED] SAID THAT HE COULD NOT SIGN SUCH AN AGREEMENT. [REDACTED] LATER SAID THAT HE FELT THAT

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PURPOSELY MADE HIS DEMANDS SO STRONG IN ORDER TO HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR REMOVING HIMSELF FROM THE INVASION FORCE.

5. AT A MEETING OF CUBAN ACTIVISTS LATE IN THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER [REDACTED] ANNOUNCED A POSTPONEMENT IN THE PLANNED DEPARTURE FOR THE INVASION. HE SAID THAT BEFORE THE FORCE COULD EMBARK IT WAS NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THE DISAGREEMENTS THAT HAD ARISEN AMONG VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE MASFERRER FORCE. [REDACTED] SAID ANOTHER REASON FOR POSTPONEMENT WAS FEAR THAT U.S. CUSTOMS WOULD SEIZE THE WEAPONS IF THE MASFERRER FORCES TRIED TO MOVE THEM FROM THEIR PRESENT HIDING PLACES. THIS LED MEMBERS OF THE ACTIVISTS TO ASK WHY THEY SHOULD BE CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. CUSTOMS SINCE THEY HAD BEEN REPEATEDLY TOLD BY MASFERRER THAT THE INVASION PLAN HAD THE APPROVAL OF U.S. AUTHORITIES.

6. FIELD DISSEM: CINCSO, CINCLANT, COMWESTFOR, [REDACTED] STATE, FBI, I&NS, CUSTOMS, USCG, BORDER PATROL [REDACTED]

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